Appointment of contractual and temporary workers in the E T & T

705. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what is the number of contractual/temporary workers from private companies who have been appointed in the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd. and how much amount has been paid to them during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): For obtaining services of varied nature from time to time, Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation (ET&T) have not appointed any personnel but given assignments on cotractual basis to outside bodies and agencies.

ET&T has paid approximately Rs. 7.83 lakhs to the outside bodies and agencies towards contractual assignments during 1986-87 which are towards cleaning and maintenance, security, packaging, financial consultancy, etc.

Account of overtime paid by ET&T

706. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what amount has been paid by the Electronics Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd. as overtime allowance during 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): Rs. 2.46 lakhs—From April 1986 to January 1987.

Bank robberies in Punjab

707. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any breakthrough has been made in the investigations into the bank robberies that were committed in Punjab during the year 1986-87;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the number of persons arrested and amount recovered;

(c) what fresh steps have been taken to improve the security arrangements at banks, particularly in rural areas; and

(d) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to minimise the cash accumulations in banks and, if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) The Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per available information of bank robberies dacoities that occurred in Punjab during the years 1986 and 1987, in 7 cases 18 culprits have been arrested. Of these, in six cases a sum of Rs. 1.49 lakhs has been recovered.

(c) Bank robberies/dacoities, to a considerable extent, depend on the general security environment in the locality. Depending on the risk factor involved, steps have been taken by banks to appoint security guards, instal appropriate alarm systems, etc. in the branches.

(d) Cash retention limits for bank branches are fixed by the concerned bank. In fixing cash holding limts, several factors, are taken into account, such as, size and location of the branch, volume of business, security environment, etc. The banks, however, review the requirements periodically and try to keep the limits to the minimise necessary.

Visit of the CSIR Review Committe at CSIO, Chandigarh

708. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the CSIR review committee recently visited the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation at Chandigarh on a fact-finding mission;